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EXPEDITED EXAMINING PROCEDURE

PATENT
Docket No. 58328US002IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Leigh E. WOOD et al.) Group Art Unit: 3677
Serial No.: 10/674,174) Examiner: Ruth C. Rodriguez
Confirmation No.: 1946)
Filed: 29 September 2003)
For: CLOSURE SYSTEM AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE

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Commissioner for Patents
Attn: Examiner Ruth C. Rodriguez
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Mueting, Raasch & Gebhardt, P.A.

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116**Mail Stop AF**
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The Final Office Action mailed January 3, 2006 has been received and reviewed. The pending claims are claims 1-3, 7-15, and 29-43.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection, in view of the following comments, are respectfully requested.

The 35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection

Claims 1-3, 7-15, and 29-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by EP 0 669 121 A1 (hereinafter EP '121). Applicants respectfully traverse the stated rejection.